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**Environment Department Advises Leasburg State Park to Lift “Boil Water Order”**

(Las Cruces, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau has advised Leasburg State Park that it is now safe to lift a “Boil Water Order” for the water system.

The Leasburg State Park is located in Dona Ana County approximately twelve miles north of the City Of Las Cruces. The Leasburg State Park was put on a “Boil Water Advisory” on April 9, 2004, due to bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for E. coli.

To address the problem the water system’s entire infrastructure, from the source to the distribution lines, has been thoroughly disinfected, flushed and monitored for chlorine residuals.

Microbiological results received on April 12, 2004 of the ten (10) follow-up samples collected showed no Total Coliform or E. coli bacteria in the water system. As a result of these findings NMED-DWB, in collaboration with the Department Of Health has determined that it is safe for the park to lift the “boil water order”.

Most strains of E.coli are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals. However, a presence of E. coli in the drinking water supply may indicate that the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal waste and could contain disease-causing organisms.

For more information, contact Ricardo G. Jacquez, Supervisor/Hydrologist, NMED-DWB, at (505) 524-6300 or Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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